

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 GEORGE 00665 291929Z

60

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 DRC-01 AID-20 OMB-01 /131 W

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R 291810Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9637

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L GEORGETOWN 0665

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OAS, GY, VE

SUBJECT: GOG ATTITUDE TOWARDS MEMBERSHIP IN OAS

REF: GEORGETOWN 0662

SUMMARY: IN AFTERMATH OF MEXICO AND WASHINGTON MFM'S AND ADMISSION TO IDB, GOG DOES NOT INTEND TO PRESS FOR ADMISSION TO OAS, ACCORDING TO FONMIN RAMPHAL. HE SAID GOG WILL INSTEAD WORK TOWARDS ACCEPTANCE IN SUBSIDIARY ORGANS OF OAS SUCH AS PAHO, SCCN, CIAP, ETC., IN HOPE THAT EVENTUALLY FULL OAS MEMBERSHIP WILL BE ALMOST AUTOMATIC. HE DECLINED OFFER BY MEXICAN FONMIN RABASA TO ACT AS INTER-MEDIARY WITH VENEZUELA ON OAS MEMBERSHIP ISSUE. HE WILL MEET WITH VENEZUELAN FONMIN IN CARACAS DURING JUNE. THERE WAS HINT THAT GOG MAY ALSO WISH TO HOLD OFF TO SEE WHETHER CANADA COMES IN AND CUBA RETURNS TO OAS. END SUMMARY.

1. IN MY INITIAL CONVERSATION ON APRIL 27 WITH FONMIN RAMPHAL FOLLOWING HIS NEARLY  
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PAGE 02 GEORGE 00665 291929Z

THREE-MONTH ABSENCE FROM GUYANA, HE DEALT  
MAINLY WITH HIS IMPRESSIONS OF WASHINGTON MFM (SEE REFTEL).

WITHOUT PROMPTING, HOWEVER, HE ALSO DISCUSSED PROSPECTS FOR, AND GOG ATTITUDE TOWARDS, MEMBERSHIP IN OAS.

2. HE GOT ONTO THE SUBJECT BY RELATING THAT AT SOME POINT DURING MFM'S IN MEXICO AND WASHINGTON, MEXICAN FONMIN RABASA HAD OFFERED TO ACT AS INTERMEDIARY WITH VENEZUELAN FONMIN TO SEE IF VENEZUELA COULD BE PERSUADED TO WITHDRAW ITS OBJECTION TO ADMISSION OF GUYANA. RAMPHAL SAID HE HAD DECLINED THE OFFER, AND OBSERVED THAT GOG IS PERFECTLY CAPABLE OF DEALING DIRECTLY WITH VENEZUELA ON THIS OR ANY OTHER ISSUE. AS A MATTER OF FACT, HE WENT ON, HE WILL BE GOING TO CARACAS IN JUNE TO MEET WITH THE NEW VENEZUELAN FONMIN. HE DID NOT SAY THAT OAS MEMBERSHIP WOULD BE DISCUSSED, BUT HE DID SAY THAT HE AND PRIME MINISTER BURNHAM CONSIDER THIS A HIGHLY SIGNIFICANT STEP IN RELATIONS WITH VENEZUELA.

3. RAMPHAL WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE GOG DOES NOT INTEND TO PRESS FOR EARLY ADMISSION TO THE OAS. THEY ARE PLEASED WITH PROGRESS REPRESENTED BY PARTICIPATION IN TWO MFM'S AND BY ADMISSION TO IDB. GOG FEELS THAT IT WOULD BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE TO PUSH VENEZUELAN AT THIS STAGE, AND THAT GOG INTERESTS WILL BE BETTER SERVED BY SHOWING A DISPOSITION TO BECOME INVOLVED AND ACCEPTED IN SOME OF THE WORKING SUBSIDIARIES OF THE OAS, SUCH AS PAHO, SCCN, AND POSSIBLY CIAP. HE REASONED THAT GOG ACTIVITY AND MEMBERSHIP IN THESE ORGANS WILL BE RELATIVELY MORE DIGESTIBLE FOR VENEZUELA AND THAT EVENTUALLY GUYANA WILL REACH POINT WHERE PASSAGE FROM WHAT AMOUNTS TO DE FACTO TO DE JURE MEMBERSHIP IN OAS WILL BE VIRTUALLY AUTOMATIC. MEANWHILE, BOTH THROUGH GOG PARTICIPATION IN NEW MFM FORUM AND THROUGH MORE ACTIVE BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH GUYANA'S LA NEIGHBORS, HE HOPES TO BUILD STRONG CASE FOR GUYANA'S FULL ACCEPTANCE IN OAS.

4. COMMENT: IN RELATING HIS IMPRESSIONS OF MEXICO AND WASHINGTON MEETINGS, RAMPHAL ALLUDED WITH EVIDENT APPROBATION TO JAMAICAN MINISTER OF STATE THOMPSON'S PITCH THAT OAS MUST INCLUDE BOTH CANADA AND CUBA. THIS LEFT ME WITH THE IMPRESSION THAT PERHAPS ANOTHER REASON FOR GUYANA'S GRADUALIST APPROACH TO OAS MEMBERSHIP IS A DESIRE TO SEE WHAT HAPPENS IN THESE TWO CASES BEFORE MAKING A FINAL COMMITMENT. GUYANA WOULD OBVIOUSLY WANT TO  
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PAGE 03 GEORGE 00665 291929Z

AVOID HAVING ITS RELATBWONS WITH CUBA BECOME AN ISSUE WITHIN THE OAS, AS HAPPENED IN THE CASE OF JAMAICA, ALTHOUGH DEVELOPMENTS SINCE THEN HAVE CHANGED THE PICTURE. AS REGARDS CANADA, GUYANA WOULD NATURALLY FEEL MORE COMFORTABLE HAVING ANOTHER STRONG ENGLISH-SPEAKING MEMBER TO COUNTER-BALANCE THE PRESENT LATIN PREPONDERANCE. KREBS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS, MEMBER ADMISSIONS, PUBLIC ATTITUDES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 29 APR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974GEORGE00665  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740101-1095  
**From:** GEORGETOWN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Line Count:** 111  
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**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** GEORGETOWN 0662  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 09 SEP 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <09 SEP 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <10 FEB 2003 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GOG ATTITUDE TOWARDS MEMBERSHIP IN OAS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, GY, VE, OAS, IDB  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005